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ABSTRACT

This information bulletin presents data collected from 41 state education agencies concerning categorical and noncategorical certification of special education teachers. Part 1 is a state-by-state profile of the certification of special education and related services professionals that serve students with special needs. Each state listing provides information on areas of certification, other special education teacher approvals, other special education personnel reported, and name and address of a contact person. Part 2 examines trends in the data provided, such as the use of terminology and changes in certification practices for specific disabilities. A preface analyzes the data, finding that only 4 states (of 41 responding) reported truly noncategorical certification, while 20 considered their certification to be noncategorical but issued certificates in some specific areas, and the other 17 respondents specified categorical certifications. Of the states that reported, early childhood special education is issued as a separate certification in 21 states. (JDD)

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The National Association of State
Directors of Special Education



The Council for
Exceptional Children

THE NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE

FOR PROFESSIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

INFORMATION BULLETIN #45

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Special Education Certification Survey of the States

Summer, 1990

Terry R. Berkeley
Gallaudet University
Washington, DC

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National Clearinghouse for Professions in Special Education
Professions Information Center
The Council for Exceptional Children
1920 Association Drive, Reston, Virginia 22091
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PREFACE

This reference is a compilation of data collected from state education agencies. The purpose is to provide current information on several variables associated with special education certification in the states. The report grew out of a request for information about categorical and non-categorical certification nationwide. This information should be of interest to the state CSPD (Comprehensive System of Personnel Development) officers, other state special education personnel, state certification officials, and faculty and staff in colleges and universities. Students enrolled in graduate and undergraduate training programs might also be interested in this information.

Special education certification in the states generally reflects the kinds of placements or categories of identification (e.g., labels) given to students with disabilities after an assessment of their performance is analyzed. In some states, categorical placements based upon a specific handicapping condition occurs. In other states, cross-categorical or non-categorical assignment of students occurs. In still other states, categorical and non-categorical placements occur.

During this survey, it was discovered that a number of states (N=24) considered their certification to be non-categorical. Yet for most of those states (N=20), their non-categorical certifications were accompanied by certificates in the areas of deafness/hearing impairments and blindness/visual impairments/partially sighted (N=8); or, included certificates in deafness and blindness related categories and some other separate categories such as gifted or emotional handicaps/emotional disturbance (N=12). Only four of the states that reported truly had non-categorical certification for special education teachers. The balance of the states that responded to the survey (N=17) specified categorical certifications.

The inclusion of categorical certifications in states reporting themselves to be non-categorical is indicative of practical or historical considerations, or both. Of the states that reported (N=41), thirty-seven issue certificates in areas related to deafness and blindness. Generally, these were the initial certification categories in a state due to the long existence of state schools for the deaf and/or blind. And, these schools and certificates were in place well before the 1975 enactment of Public Law (P.L.) 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act. Practically, the skills necessary to teach students who are deaf or blind require competencies not traditionally taught in general special education teacher training programs in colleges and universities. Thus, the majority of the states, even those reporting themselves to be non-categorical, have recognized the need for certification in deafness and blindness to assure that skilled professionals work with these students.

Early childhood special education certification is now an issue of interest given the enactment and pending implementation of P.L. 99-457, Amendments to the Education of the Handicapped Act of 1986. Of the states that reported, early childhood special education as a separate certification is issued in 21 of those states. In seven states, early childhood special education certification is part of certification listed as "Pre-kindergarten--" or "Kindergarten--" in a disability category with a note specifying a teacher with that credential can teach at the preschool level. In 13 states, early childhood special education certification was not listed.

The recent enactment of P.L. 99-457 has resulted in planning for its implementation in the states at the start of the 1990-1991 school year. Certification in early childhood special education, however, is being considered in some states and, perhaps, will be available in the near future depending upon the actions of state legislatures and state boards of education.

[NOTE: The Teacher Education Division (TED) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) publishes a directory of special education teacher training programs. The directory is a state-by-state listing of colleges and universities with teacher training programs, with the areas of training provided as well as levels of training (e.g., undergraduate and/or graduate. Additional information regarding the availability of this directory can be obtained through CEC, 1920 Association Drive, Reston, Virginia 22091.]

Organization of this Information Bulletin

This Information Bulletin is divided into two parts. Part One is a state-by-state profile of the certification of special education and related services professionals that serve students with special needs. Part Two contains summary data relative to several variables in this topical area.

In Part One, State-by-State Profiles, each state listing is separated into the following categories: areas of certification; other special education teacher approvals; other special education personnel; and, contact. The categories are defined as follows:

- o **Areas of Certification:** A specification of the primary special education teacher credentials issued by a state.
- o **Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:** A list of specializations or additional areas of special education teacher certifications in a state.
- o **Other Special Education Personnel Reported:** A detailing of reported information on special education related services and administrative certificates issued by a state.
- o **Contact:** The address and individual (if known) from which to obtain specific information about special education certification in a state.

This Information Bulletin is easy to use. The following is an example of a state profile:

Info. Bull. #45

MARYLAND

Areas of Certification: ☐ Hearing impaired
☐ Visually impaired
☐ Severe and profoundly impaired

Categorical teacher
certification areas

Non-categorical teacher
certification areas ☐ Infant/Primary (Birth-grade 3)
☐ Elementary/Middle (Grade 1-8)
☐ Secondary/Adult (Grade 6-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None | ☐ No other areas of special education
teacher certification exist

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: ☐ Guidance counselor
☐ Pupil personnel worker (this is
equivalent to a social worker)
☐ School psychologist (Level I & II)
☐ Speech pathologist
☐ Physical therapist
☐ Occupational therapist
☐ Audiologist

Related services or administrative
certifications available

Contact: Mr. Jack Jones, Supervisor
 Certification
 Maryland Department of Education
 200 W. Baltimore Street
 Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595

Name and address to obtain
additional information on
certification in special
education

PART ONE
State-by-State Profiles

ARIZONA

- Areas of Certification:**
- o All K-12:
 - o Mentally handicapped
 - o Seriously emotionally disturbed
 - o Learning disabled
 - o Physically handicapped
 - o Severely/Profoundly handicapped
 - o Hearing handicapped
 - o Visually handicapped
 - o Speech and language therapist
-
- o Vocational special needs (Emergency)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: Gifted (Provisional)

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- o School psychologist
- o School social worker guidelines
- o Guidance counselor

Contact: Teacher Certification Unit
Arizona Department of Education
1535 W. Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

ARKANSAS

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Serious emotional disturbance (K-12)
 - o Visually impaired (K-12, 7-12)
 - o Deaf or hard of hearing (K-12)
 - o Speech pathologist (Birth-21)

 - o Mildly handicapped (K-12)
 - o Moderate/Profoundly handicapped (K-12)
 - o Early childhood special education (Birth thru 5)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- o *All Birth-21:*
- o Physical therapist
- o Occupational therapist
- o Psychologist
- o Medical personnel

Contact: Ms. Margie Wood, CSPD Coordinator
Arkansas Department of Education
4 State Capitol Mall
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

CALIFORNIA

Areas of Certification:

- ☐ Learning handicapped
- ☐ Severely handicapped
- ☐ Physically handicapped
- ☐ Communications handicapped
- ☐ Visually handicapped
- ☐ Other health impaired (autistic)
- ☐ Gifted (Levels: Preschool-12, and classes offered primarily for adults)

[NOTE: This is a specialist credential]

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: ☐ Speech and hearing therapy

Contact: Dr. Margie Schrup
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
1812 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

COLORADO

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Special Education Teacher 1, Moderate needs (5-21 years)
 - o Special Education Teacher 2, Severe needs: Affective (5-21 years)
 - o Cognitive (5-21 years)
 - o Communications (5-21 years)
 - o Hearing (0-21 years)
 - o Vision (0-21 years)
 - o Special Education Teacher 3, Profound needs (0-21 years)
 - o Special Education Teacher 4, Early childhood special education (0-5 years)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Colorado Department of Education
Special Education Services Unit
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80203

CONNECTICUT

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ *All Pre-Kindergarten-12:*
 - ☐ Blind
 - ☐ Partially sighted
 - ☐ Hearing impaired
 - ☐ Comprehensive special education (Pre-Kindergarten-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ School counselor
 - ☐ School psychologist
 - ☐ School social worker
 - ☐ Speech and language pathologist
 - ☐ School nurse-teacher
 - ☐ School dental hygienist

Contact: Dr. Dino Dastur, Chief
 Bureau of Teacher Certification &
 Accreditation
 Connecticut State Department of Education
 165 Capitol Avenue
 Hartford, Connecticut 06106

DELAWARE

Areas of Certification:

- ☐ Learning disabilities
- ☐ Mental retardation
- ☐ Serious emotional needs
- ☐ Visually impaired
- ☐ Hearing impaired
- ☐ Gifted and talented

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Joyce Budna, Certification Specialist
Department of Public Instruction
Dover, Delaware 19903

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Deaf
 - o Deaf-blind
 - o Learning disabled
 - o Emotionally disturbed
 - o Mental retardation
 - o Orthopedically impaired
 - o Other health impaired
 - o Multiply handicapped
 - o Visually impaired
-
- o Early childhood (Pre-K and Kindergarten)
 - o Special education (Pre-K-12)

- Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:**
- o Health and physical education
 - o Health and physical education (1-6)

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o Special education and pupil personnel services
 - o Speech/Language pathology
 - o Pupil personnel workers
 - o School psychologist
 - o School social worker

Contact: Gladys Clark-Johnson, Director
 Planning & Development
 District of Columbia Public Schools
 Office of Special Services & Student Affairs
 10th & H Streets, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20001

GEORGIA

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ *All 5-21 years:*
 - ☐ Mentally handicapped (mild, moderate, severe, profound)
 - ☐ Behavior disordered
 - ☐ Learning disabilities
 - ☐ Visually impaired
 - ☐ Hearing impaired
 - ☐ Interrelated
 - ☐ Speech/language disordered
 - ☐ Orthopedically handicapped
 - ☐ Other health impaired
 - ☐ Preschool handicapped (3-4 years)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- ☐ Physical therapist
- ☐ Occupational therapist

Contact: John Hooper, Director
 Certification Division
 Georgia Department of Education
 1452 Twin Towers East
 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

IDAHO

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Consulting teacher
 - o Early childhood (3-5)
 - o Standard exceptional child certification

- Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:**
- o *Specializations:*
 - o Hearing impaired
 - o Visually impaired
 - o Physically handicapped
 - o Multiply handicapped
 - o Severe retardation
 - o Serious emotional disturbance/severe behavior disordered

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o Student & advising counselor
 - o Psychological examiner: School psychologist
 - o Student communications disorders specialist
 - o Student audiology endorsement
 - o School social worker endorsement
 - o School nurse

Contact: Ms. Vickie Simmons
 State Department of Public Instruction
 Room 251, Len B. Jordan Building
 Boise, Idaho 83720

ILLINOIS

- Areas of Certification:**
- o *Standard certification. All grades common school:*
 - o Emotionally handicapped
 - o Learning disabilities
 - o Severe emotional disorders
 - o Trainable mentally handicapped
 - o Blind and partially sighted
 - o Deaf and hard of hearing
 - o Physically handicapped
 - o Serious language impairments

- Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:**
- o Adapted physical education teacher
 - o Early childhood special education

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o Prevocational coordinator
 - o Teacher coordinator
 - o Administrator of special education
 - o Supervisor of special education
 - o Art therapist
 - o Daily living skills specialist
 - o Music therapist
 - o Medical services personnel (Diagnosis and evaluation)
 - o Orientation and mobility specialist
 - o Recreation therapist
 - o Interns:
 - o School social worker
 - o School psychologist
 - o School nurse
 - o Other necessary personnel

Contact: Ms. Gail Liberman
 Mr. Barry Weiss
 Certification & Placement Service
 Illinois State Board of Education
 100 N. First Street
 Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

Other: There is a special application for cross-categorical positions.

INDIANA

Areas of Certification: o *All K-12. If K, can teach preschool:*
 o Physically handicapped
 o Emotionally handicapped
 o Learning disabled
 o Mild mentally handicapped
 o Hearing impaired
 o Communications handicapped
 o Mild disabilities
 o Severe disabilities

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Ms. Beverly Fay, Section Manager
 Indiana Department of Education
 Division of Special Education
 Room 229, State House
 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2798

Other: Currently developing preschool standards.

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IOWA

- Areas of Certification:**
- o *All either Pre-K, K-6, or 7-12:*
 - o Behavioral disorders
 - o Mental disabilities (mild/moderate)
 - o Mental disabilities (moderate/severe/profound)
 - o Physically handicapped
 - o Hearing impaired
 - o Visually impaired
 - o Multicategorical special class

- o Learning disabilities (K-6, or 7-12)
- o Multicategorical (Mildly) (K-6 or 7-12)
- o Early childhood special education

- Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:**
- o Itinerant hospital services or home teacher

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o School audiologist
 - o School social worker
 - o School psychologist
 - o School physical therapist
 - o School occupational therapist
 - o Speech and language clinician
 - o Special education nurse
 - o Director of special education
 - o Special education consultant
 - o Educational strategist
 - o Special education media specialist
 - o Supervisor of special education:
 - o Support
 - o Work experience coordinator

Contact: Ms. Jane Yeager, Education Program Consultant
 Special Education Professional Development
 Iowa Department of Education
 Grimes State Office Building
 Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146

KANSAS

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Educable mentally retarded
 - o Trainable mentally retarded
 - o Learning disabilities
 - o Behavior disorders
 - o Physically impaired
 - o Visually impaired
 - o Hearing impaired
 - o Gifted
 - o Severe multiply handicapped
 - o Early childhood handicapped
 - o Mental retardation
 - o Vocational special needs
 - o Levels: early childhood: Pre-K; K-9, elementary level; 5-9, middle level; 7-9, junior high school; 7-12, secondary; PS, post-secondary)

- Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:**
- o Adapted physical education

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o Supervisor in these areas:
 - o Mental retardation
 - o School psychology
 - o School social work
 - o Speech/language pathology
 - o Learning disabilities
 - o Behavior disorders
 - o Physical impairments
 - o Visual impairments
 - o Hearing impairments
 - o Gifted
 - o Multiply handicapped
 - o Early childhood handicapped
 - o Severe mental handicaps
 - o Special education supervisor/ coordinator
 - o School psychologist
 - o School speech and language pathologist
 - o School audiologist

KANSAS

Contact: Mr. Harold L. Hodges
Kansas Department of Education
120 E. 10th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1103

KENTUCKY

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Blind
 - ☐ Partially sighted
 - ☐ Visually impaired
 - ☐ Deaf, hard of hearing, hearing impaired
 - ☐ Educable mentally retarded
 - ☐ Behavior disorders
 - ☐ Neurologically impaired
 - ☐ Orthopedically impaired
 - ☐ Speech and hearing
 - ☐ Speech and communications disorders
 - ☐ Trainable mentally retarded
 - ☐ Trainable mentally handicapped
 - ☐ Severe/profound handicapped

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Mr. Mike Miller
Division of Exceptional Children
Kentucky Department of Education
Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Other: Level I and II for early childhood, not early childhood special education.

MAINE

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Teacher of blind or visually impaired
 - ☐ Teacher of deaf or hearing impaired
 - ☐ Teacher of severe impairments

 - ☐ Teacher of exceptional students, K-8
 - ☐ Teacher of exceptional students, 7-12
 - ☐ Resource/Consulting teacher for exceptional students, K-8, 7-12

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None.

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ Speech and hearing clinicians
 - ☐ Special education consultant
 - ☐ Director of special education

Contact: Pamela C. Rosen, Ed.D.
Maine Department of Education and
Cultural Services
Division of Certification
State House Station #23
Augusta, Maine 04333

MARYLAND

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Hearing impaired
 - ☐ Visually impaired
 - ☐ Severe and profoundly impaired
-
- ☐ Infant/Primary (Birth-grade 3)
 - ☐ Elementary/Middle (Grade 1-8)
 - ☐ Secondary/Adult (Grade 6-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ Guidance counselor
 - ☐ Pupil personnel worker (this is equivalent to a social worker)
 - ☐ School psychologist (Level I & II)
 - ☐ Speech pathologist
 - ☐ Physical therapist
 - ☐ Occupational therapist
 - ☐ Audiologist

Contact: Mr. Jack Jones, Supervisor
 Certification
 Maryland Department of Education
 200 W. Baltimore Street
 Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595

MASSACHUSETTS

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Teacher of deaf and hard of hearing: American Sign Language/Total Communication (all grades)
 - o Teacher of deaf and hard of hearing: Oral/Aural (all grades)
 - o Teacher of students with speech, language and hearing disorders (all grades)

 - o Teacher of children with special needs (Nursery-Grade 9)
 - o Teacher of children with intensive special needs (all grades)
 - o Teacher of young children with special needs (3-7)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- o School psychologist
- o Administrator of special education

Contact: Ms. Trudy Sadeghpour, CSPD Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Education
1385 Hancock Street
Quincy, Massachusetts 02169-5183

MICHIGAN

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Teachers of the mentally impaired
 - o Teachers of the emotionally impaired
 - o Teacher of the learning disabled
 - o Teacher consultants for handicapped persons
 - o Curriculum resource consultant
 - o Teachers of physical education for handicapped individuals
 - o Teachers of the autistic
 - o Teachers of the physically and otherwise health impaired
 - o Teacher of other visually impaired
 - o Teacher of the hearing impaired
-
- o Special education-approved preprimary teacher
 - o Teacher of the speech and language impaired
 - o Fully approved teachers of the handicapped
 - o Special education intern teachers
 - o Temporarily approved teachers of the handicapped

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: o Work study coordinator

Contact: David J. Brock, Consultant
 Policy, State Planning, and Monitoring
 Special Education Services
 Michigan Department of Education
 P.O. Box 30008
 Lansing, Michigan 48909

Other: Special education teachers with endorsements or approvals in other categories of handicapping conditions may serve children in the birth through five year range as long as the majority of the children in the program are under the age of six. If the majority of the children in the program are under the age of six, the teacher must hold preprimary approval.

Beginning September 1, 1990, special education teachers will begin earning endorsements in elementary or secondary special education.

MISSISSIPPI

- Areas of Certification:**
- o All K-12:
 - o Visually impaired
 - o Hearing impaired
 - o Emotionally handicapped
 - o Speech language
 - o Audiologist
 - o Gifted-talented (All K-12)

 - o Mildly/Moderately handicapped (K-12)
 - o Severely handicapped (K-12)
 - o Elementary education/Mildly moderately handicapped (K-8)

- Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:**
- o *At the Class A Level [Elementary] and the Class AA Level [at the completion of the required coursework at the graduate level]:*
 - o Mildly/Moderately handicapped (K-8)
 - o Mildly/Moderately handicapped (7-12)

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o Art
 - o Guidance counselor
 - o Health and physical education
 - o School psychologist
 - o Special area administrator

Contact: Carolyn Black, Director
 Bureau of Special Services
 Mississippi State Department of Education
 P.O. Box 771
 Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0771

MISSOURI

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ All K-12:
 - ☐ Teacher of severely developmentally disabled students
 - ☐ Teacher of blind and partially sighted students
 - ☐ Teacher of deaf and hearing impaired students
 - ☐ Speech and language specialist
 - ☐ Special reading teacher
 - ☐ Teacher of orthopedically and/or health impaired students
 - ☐ Teacher of the mentally handicapped
 - ☐ Teacher of the behaviorally disordered
 - ☐ Teacher of the learning disabled (At the levels, K-9, 7-12, or K-12)
-
- ☐ Early childhood special education (Non-Categorical)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Dr. John B. Heskett
 Ms. Diane Golden
 Section of Special Education
 Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
 P.O. Box 480
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Other: Working on the development of a non-categorical certification for teachers working with mild/moderate handicapped children. These standards should be completed by the end of this year (1990).

MONTANA

Areas of Certification: o Special education (K-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: o *Licensure, not certification:*
o Speech/Language pathology
o Occupational therapy
o Physical therapy

o School psychologist

Contacts: Robert Runkel, Director of Special Education
Office of Public Instruction
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59620

Department of Commerce
Professional and Occupational Licensing Bureau
1424 9th Avenue
Helena, Montana 59601

Other: Although the endorsement is termed "K-12 Special Education," the teachers are considered credentialed to serve students birth through 21. Montana service patterns for the 0-2 population is provided by a different state agency, so teachers generally are not called upon to provide direct services to 0-2 (year old children). Teachers may, however, be involved in the evaluation process.

NEBRASKA

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ *All Preschool-12:*
 - ☐ Behaviorally disordered
 - ☐ Hearing impaired
 - ☐ Learning disabled
 - ☐ Severely/multihandicapped
 - ☐ Visually handicapped
 - ☐ Special education: Mildly/Moderately handicapped (K-12, K-6, K-9, 7-12)
 - ☐ Vocational special needs (7-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ *All Preschool-12:*
 - ☐ School psychologist
 - ☐ Educational audiologist
 - ☐ Speech/Language pathologist
 - ☐ Guidance and counseling (K-12, K-6, 7-12)
 - ☐ Media (K-12)

Contact: Director of Special Education
 Nebraska Department of Education
 P. O. Box 94987
 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4987

NEVADA

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Endorsements:
 - o Aurally handicapped
 - o Seriously emotionally handicapped
 - o Moderate or severe learning disabilities
 - o Severely or profoundly mentally handicapped
 - o Physically handicapped
 - o Speech and language handicapped
 - o Visually handicapped
 - o Adaptive physical education for the handicapped
 - o Professional teacher of the handicapped
 - o Limited generalists endorsement to teach in a resource room
 - o Generalists endorsement to teach in a resource room
 - o Early childhood special education (Pupils under 5 years of age)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Colleen Sapper, Consultant
 Special Education
 Nevada Department of Education
 400 W. King Street
 Capitol Complex
 Carson City, Nevada 89710

Other: The Nevada Commission on Professional Standards is currently completing a year-long study of all special education endorsement areas. Alterations to present licensure are to be completed by Summer, 1990.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Areas of Certification:**
- o *All K-12:*
 - o Acoustically handicapped
 - o Emotionally disturbed/ behaviorally disordered
 - o Learning disabled
 - o Mental retardation
 - o Physically handicapped
 - o Visually handicapped
 - o General special education and special education consulting teacher (K-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: o Speech/Language pathologist

Contact: Ms. Jane S. Weissman, Curriculum Specialist
 Bureau for Special Education Services
 101 Pleasant Street
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Other: New Hampshire has just completed a two-year project whereby the existing system for certifying special education personnel was reviewed. The recommendations generated and published in the report by the individuals conducting that study were submitted to the State Professional Standards Board in the early part of this year (1990). The Board has not yet acted on those recommendations.

NEW JERSEY

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Teacher of the blind or partially sighted
 - ☐ Teacher of the deaf or hard of hearing

 - ☐ Teacher of the handicapped

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Jeffery V. Osowski, Director
or
Ms. Eileen Ware
Division of Special Education
State of New Jersey Department of Education
225 West State Street, CN 500
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500

NEW MEXICO

Areas of Certification: o Licensure in special education, K-12

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Marilyn Scargall, Director
Professional Licensure
New Mexico Department of Education
Education Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501-2786

NORTH CAROLINA

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Severely/Profoundly handicapped
 - o Audiology
 - o Preschool handicapped (Prekindergarten age group)
 - o Mentally handicapped
 - o Visually impaired
 - o Severely emotionally handicapped
 - o Specific learning disabilities
 - o Academically gifted
 - o Hearing impaired

 - o Cross-categorical

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o Exceptional children program administrator
 - o School social service worker
 - o School psychologist

Contact: Director of Special Education
 Division for Exceptional Children
 North Carolina State Department
 of Public Instruction
 Room 442, Education Building
 116 W. Edenton
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-1712

Other: In the Certification Manual of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction it states, "Beginning with the 1986-87 school year, the in field policy was extended to cover Exceptional Children certification areas. Specifically, this policy requires appropriate certification for each area of exceptionality to which the teacher is assigned. The policy is administered by the 30% rule, which means that the teacher must be certified in an area of exceptionality if 30% or more of the class to which the teacher is assigned is determined to be in that area of exceptionality.

NORTH DAKOTA

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Learning disabilities
 - ☐ Emotional disturbance
 - ☐ Language and speech disorders
 - ☐ Speech/language pathology
 - ☐ Visually impaired
 - ☐ Hearing impaired
 - ☐ Educable mentally retarded
 - ☐ Trainable mentally retarded
 - ☐ Physically handicapped
 - ☐ Early childhood education for handicapped children
 - ☐ Gifted
 - ☐ Home and hospitalized and other health impaired
-
- ☐ Resource room
 - ☐ Support services
 - ☐ Tutors in training
 - ☐ Aides

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- ☐ Director of special education
- ☐ Special education program coordinator
- ☐ Audiology
- ☐ Occupational therapy
- ☐ Physical therapy
- ☐ Psychology

Contact: James Bauer, Assistant Director of Special Education
Department of Public Instruction
State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Other: In the related services areas, individuals must meet the licensure requirements of the North Dakota State Board of Licensure.

OKLAHOMA

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Emotionally disturbed
 - ☐ Physically handicapped
 - ☐ Learning disabilities
 - ☐ Mental retardation
 - ☐ Visually impaired
 - ☐ Hearing impaired

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ Speech/Language pathology
 - ☐ Occupational therapy
 - ☐ Physical therapy

Contact: Pam Robinson, Assistant Director
Special Education Services
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599

OREGON

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Basic hearing impaired
 - ☐ Basic speech impaired
 - ☐ Basic visually impaired

 - ☐ Basic Handicapped Learner I
 - ☐ Basic Handicapped Learner II
 - ☐ Basic Severely Handicapped Learner

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: Endorsements for use in vocational education programs

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Special Education & Student Services Division
Oregon Department of Education
700 Pringle Parkway SE
Salem, Oregon 97310-0290

RHODE ISLAND

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Special class teacher
 - o Physically impaired/Multi-handicapped
 - o Pre-school, elementary, middle and secondary level
 - o Teacher of the blind and partially sighted
 - o Pre-school, elementary, middle and secondary level
 - o Teacher of the hearing disordered
 - o Deaf and hard of hearing
 - o Pre-school, elementary, middle and secondary level
 - o Special class teacher
 - o Self-contained classroom
 - o Sensory impaired (deaf/blind, multi-handicapped)
 - o Pre-school, elementary, middle and secondary level
 - o Resource teacher (mildly handicapped), Pre-school and elementary level
 - o Resource teacher (mildly handicapped), Middle school and secondary level
 - o (Both certificates Track I and II)
 - o Special class teacher
 - o Self-contained classroom
 - o Mildly/Moderately handicapped
 - o Pre-school, elementary and middle school, and middle and secondary levels
 - o Special class teacher
 - o Self-contained classroom
 - o Moderately/Severely/Profoundly handicapped
 - o Pre-school, elementary, middle and secondary levels

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- o Speech/Language therapist
- o Administrator of special education

RHODE ISLAND

Contact: Ms. Diane Devine
Special Education Program Services Unit
Rhode Island Department of Education
Roger Williams Building, Room 209
22 Hayes Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5025

SOUTH CAROLINA

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Emotionally handicapped
 - ☐ Learning disabilities
 - ☐ Hearing handicapped
 - ☐ Orthopedically handicapped
 - ☐ Visually handicapped
 - ☐ Educable mentally handicapped
 - ☐ Trainable mentally handicapped
 - ☐ Speech correction
-
- ☐ Generic special education (Mild LD, EH, and EMH)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ Occupational therapist
 - ☐ Physical therapist
 - ☐ School psychologist (I, II, III)
 - ☐ Speech correctionist

Contact: Ms. Marilyn Martin
 Ms. Carolyn Knight
 Office of Programs for the Handicapped
 South Carolina Department of Education
 Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Other: Occupational and physical therapists are licensed by their respective medical boards.

Requirements for endorsements for special education are not different for different grade and/or age levels.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Areas of Certification: o Teacher of special education
 o Teacher of special education: Severe and profound

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: o Director of special education
 o School audiologist
 o School psychologist
 o Speech therapist/pathologist
 o Speech and hearing clinician

Contact: Ms. Diane Alexander
 School Standards
 South Dakota Division of Education
 South Dakota Department of Education
 and Cultural Affairs
 700 Governors Drive
 Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2193

Other: Teachers are certified to teach in any K-12 special education program which deals with any or all of the specific handicapping conditions.

Related services personnel must meet their own licensure requirements.

Speech therapists/pathologists are certified to teach K-12.

TENNESSEE

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Speech and hearing
 - ☐ Deaf and severe hearing disabilities
 - ☐ Visually impaired

 - ☐ Generic special education (K-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ Special education supervisor/administrator
 - ☐ School psychologist

Contact: Ms. Jennifer Nix, Consultant
Special Education Programs
Tennessee Department of Education
Room 132, Cordell Hall
Nashville, Tennessee 37423-0380

Other: The present certification for special education covers K-12.

The current standards are in effect until May 1, 1995. As of that date, the following will be the designated endorsements: Special Education (Modified Program, K-12; Special Education, Comprehensive Program, K-12; Vision, PreK-12; Hearing, PreK-12; Speech/Language, PreK-12; PreSchool/Early Childhood, PreK-l.

TEXAS

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Hearing impaired (K-12)
 - o Deaf and severely hard of hearing
 - o Speech and language therapy (K-12)
 - o Severely emotionally disturbed and autistic
 - o Severely and profoundly handicapped
 - o Visually handicapped
 - o Gifted and talented (all-level)
 - o Deficient vision
 - o Early childhood education for the handicapped
 - o Emotionally disturbed
 - o Language and learning disabilities
 - o Mentally retarded
 - o Physically handicapped
- o Professional special education visiting teacher: Generic special education

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- o Professional special education counselor
- o Professional special education supervisor
- o Professional school and associate school psychologist
- o Professional educational diagnostician

Contact: Rebecca Martinez, Ph.D.
 Special Education Program Specialist II
 Special Education Programs
 Texas Education Agency
 1701 North Congress Avenue
 Austin, Texas 78701-1494

TEXAS

Other: New standards for certification have been proposed, but have not been approved. They include: generic; early childhood for the handicapped; severely emotionally disturbed and autistic; severely profoundly handicapped; and, vocational adjustment coordinator. In addition, new standards and course requirements are being sought for teacher certification in speech-language pathology which would lead toward licensure.

UTAH

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Communication disorders (K-12)
 - ☐ Preschool special education (Birth-5)
 - ☐ Special education (K-12)

- Other Special Education Teacher Approvals:**
- ☐ Mild/Moderate endorsement
 - ☐ Severe endorsement
 - ☐ Hearing impairment endorsement
 - ☐ Visually impaired endorsement
 - ☐ Speech pathology endorsement
 - ☐ Audiology endorsement

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: None

Contact: Coordinator of Special Education
Utah State Office of Education
250 East 500 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111-3204

VERMONT

- Areas of Certification:**
- o Educable mentally retarded & trainable mentally retarded
 - o Vocational special needs (7-12) (handicapped & disadvantaged)

 - o Early essential education (Birth-8)
 - o Multihandicapped/Intensive special education (K-12)
 - o Resource room/Special class program (K-6, 7-12, K-12)
 - o Diversified occupations (7-12)
 - o Consulting teacher/Learning specialist (K-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- o Speech/Language pathologist (K-12)
 - o Audiology (K-12)
 - o Special education coordinator (K-12)

Contact: Ms. Pat Pallas
Vermont Department of Education
Educational Resources Unit
120 State Street
State Office Building
Montpellier, Vermont 05602-3403

Other: Special Education Coordinator requires master's degree in special education and specific coursework in administration and three or more years experience working directly with children with special needs.

VIRGINIA

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ *All Nursery/Kindergarten-12:*
 - ☐ Emotionally disturbed
 - ☐ Hearing impaired
 - ☐ Learning disabled
 - ☐ Mentally retarded
 - ☐ Severely and profoundly handicapped
 - ☐ Speech-language disorders
 - ☐ Visually impaired
 - ☐ Preschool handicapped (Birth-5)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

- Other Special Education Personnel Reported:**
- ☐ Division superintendent
 - ☐ School principals (elementary, middle, secondary)
 - ☐ Instructional supervisory personnel
 - ☐ Reading specialist (NK-12)
 - ☐ Guidance counselors (elementary, middle, secondary)
 - ☐ School psychologist
 - ☐ Visiting teacher/School social worker

Contact: Patricia Abrams, Ed.D., Supervisor
 Special Education Personnel Development
 Division of Special Education
 Virginia Department of Education
 P.O. Box 6Q
 Richmond, Virginia 23216

WASHINGTON

Areas of Certification: o Early childhood special education (Preschool-3)
 o Special education (Grades K-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported: See Note

Contact: Lois Hart, Special Education Coordinator
 Curriculum, Instructional Support and
 Special Education Services
 Superintendent of Public Instruction
 Old Capitol Building, FG-II
 Olympia, Washington 98504-3211

Other: **NOTE:** In Washington State, certain specialists who serve in K-12 schools are certified as Educational Staff Associates (ESA). The categories of ESA specialization are: communication disorders specialist (speech and hearing therapist); counselor; nurse; occupational therapist; physical therapist; psychologist; reading resource specialist; and social worker. There are two levels of ESA certification: initial (first level) and continuing (second level). All ESA personnel must eventually qualify for the continuing certificate to remain in practice in the common schools (K-12).

WEST VIRGINIA

- Areas of Certification:**
- ☐ Behavioral disorders, including autism
 - ☐ Behavioral disorders, excluding autism
 - ☐ Mentally impaired (mild/moderate) (Levels: K-12, 5-12)
 - ☐ Physically handicapped
 - ☐ Visually impaired
 - ☐ Hearing impaired
 - ☐ Speech language pathology (Level K-12)
 - ☐ Specific learning disabilities (Levels: K-12, K-8)
 - ☐ Gifted (Levels: K-8, 5-12)
 - ☐ Severely/Profoundly handicapped (No level designated)
 - ☐ Preschool handicapped (Level PreK-K)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- ☐ Educational audiologist
- ☐ School psychologist
- ☐ School counselor

Contact: Ms. Barbara Brazeau
 Ms. Mary Nunn
 Program Services
 Office of Special Education
 West Virginia Department of Education
 Building 6, Room B-304, Capitol Complex
 Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Other: There is currently a plan being developed to change from categorical to non-categorical certification.

WYOMING

Areas of Certification: o Generalists, specialist, and specialist deaf education endorsements

- o Exceptional children endorsement (K-12)

Other Special Education Teacher Approvals: None

Other Special Education Personnel Reported:

- o Educational specialist certificate
 - o Audiology, K-12
 - o Master's degree in audiology required
- o Educational diagnostician, K-12
- o Counselor, K-12
- o Psychological technician, K-12
- o School psychologist A, K-12
 - o Doctorate required
- o School psychologist B, K-12
 - o Master's degree required
- o Reading specialist, K-12
- o Special pupil service endorsements:
 - o School social worker, K-12
 - o Speech/Language pathology, K-12
 - o Director, coordinator, and supervisor of special education

Contact: Ms. Margie Simineo, Federal Programs Unit Director
Wyoming Department of Education
Hathaway Building
2300 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Mr. Lyall Hartley, Certification Unit Director
Wyoming Department of Education
Hathaway Building
2300 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

WYOMING

Other: The state is in the process of converting from transcrip analysis to a program approval process for determining certification eligibility.

Wyoming prohibits public schools from spending funds for preschool services.

PART TWO

Summary Data

TRENDS IN THE DATA

Some interesting, though expected, trends emerged from these data. Further, these trends are not surprising in that they reflect changes that have resulted from: 1) the amendments to federal and state policy (notably Public Law 99-457, the 1986 Amendments to the Education of the Handicapped Act); and, 2) the 15-year enactment of Public Law 99-142, especially the modifications in special education practice that have been reported in the research literature. Of the fifty-one (51) states surveyed (fifty states plus the District of Columbia), forty-one responded.

The trends in this data include:

- a) the term "mentally retarded" has been replaced in many instances with the term "mentally handicapped";
- b) the term "seriously emotionally disturbed" has been replaced with the terms "serious emotional disorder" or "emotionally handicapped";
- c) in some instances the term "learning disabled" has been replaced by the term "learning handicapped" or "learning disorder";
- d) rarely does the term "specific learning disabilities" appear in any of the state certification categories;
- e) there is an increase in attention to the needs of severely and profoundly handicapped students as reflected in the frequency of categories for teachers of students with severe and profound disabilities;
- f) in approximately one-third of the states, revisions to existing certification standards has taken place during the past five (5) years, and most of those states have moved to non-categorical certification categories;
- g) there is certification in the areas of deafness, hearing impairments, hard of hearing, blindness, and/or partially sighted in all but four (4) states;
- h) speech/language therapy and pathology are considered to be educational certificates in about two-thirds of the states that reported;
- i) school psychologists are certified in most of the states as related services or special support personnel;

- j) school social workers and counselors (specified as guidance counselors or school counselors) are certified in one-half of the states that reported as related services or special support personnel;
- k) adaptive physical education certification is awarded in approximately one-half of the states that reported either as a teaching certificate or as related services or special support staff;
- l) special education administrator/coordinator/supervisor certificates are awarded in approximately one-half of the states that reported;
- m) in at least one-half of the states that reported occupational therapists and physical therapists must be licensed by agencies other than the state education agency; and,
- n) certification in vocational areas relative to the preparation of students with special needs exists in approximately one-quarter of the states that reported; and, this certification is either as a vocational education teacher, as related services or special support staff personnel, or as an additional endorsement to some other special education certification.

December 1990